2003 NAR Immediate Past President Catherine B.Whatley

Catherine B. Whatley, a REALTOR from Jacksonville, Fla., is the Immediate Past President of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS. NAR, The Voice for Real Estate®, is America's largest professional association, representing more than 1 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

A REALTOR since 1969, Whatley is broker-owner of Buck & Buck Inc., a family firm established by her grandfather in 1907. She is a third generation REALTOR and holds the professional designations of Certified Residential Specialist (CRS); Graduate, REALTOR Institute (GRI); Leadership Training Graduate (LTG); and Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS).

At the national level, Whatley served as NAR's 1999 Vice President and Liaison to Committees, and was responsible for coordinating the activities of the policy and management committees with the overall goals and objectives of the association. In 1998, she served as regional vice president for the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi, as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

She has served on numerous national committees, including the Executive Committee and Strategic Planning Committee. During her year as President, she encouraged local and state associations to undertake housing opportunity initiatives in their communities, and focused on the need for decent affordable and workforce housing for Americans of all income levels as a national priority. Whatley has testified numerous times on behalf of NAR before the U.S. Congress on such issues as FHA loan limits, flood insurance, natural disaster insurance, affordable housing and RESPA.

At the state level, Whatley served as the 1996 president of the Florida Association of REALTORS and was named "REALTOR of the Year" in 1998 by her peers.

At the local level, she is the only individual to twice receive the Jacksonville Association of REALTORS' "REALTOR of the Year" Award, in 1986 and 1993.

Whatley also served on the Property Rights Commission and the Intergovernmental Coordination Committee for the state of Florida under Governor Lawton Chiles. She has previously served on the Fannie Mae Advisory Board, and will serve another term on the board in 2004.

Whatley resides with her husband, Fred, in Jacksonville.